ENGLANDS

INTEREST

BY

Trade Asserted,

SHEWING THE

NECESSITY & EXCELLENCY

Thereof.

Wherein is Discovered, that many Hundred Thousand Pounds might be Gained to the KING and KINGDOM, by the due Improvement of the Product thereof, more particularly by WOOL, and the evil Consequences of its Exportation Unmanufactured. Wherein is Evident, that by one Pack, is One Hundred Pound Loss, which otherwise might be Gained. The Methods how, and some Helps for Remedy, Humbly Offered.

By *W. C.* A Servant to his King and Country.

The Second Impression, Corrected and Enlarged.

London, Printed for the Author, 1671.

INTEREST

UMI

The Preface to the Reader.

SHould I consult my Disadvantages in being Exposed to Publick View, especially considering, my shortness as to Parts, Education, Time, and Authors, I must have been Silent; especially when it is such a Critical Generation as we live in, and some having nothing else to do but to Beget, and after Nourish contentions: But this being rather matter of Fact than Notion, and that wherein all are concerned, that I presume no one will be so Audacious, as to own an Opposition as to the Matter it self, but for the Manner; these things above considered, I hope the Reader, especially one who hath any respect to himself, and Posterity as an *English* man, or Naturalised, will overlook the impertenencies, and mind the intent and scope of the Author; and hoping some that have more time, and every Accommodation and heart to it, may hereafter when more Digested, better Polish these Rude and Confused Lines, and leave it to Posterity as a Caution. I have only this farther to add as an Apologie, why I mention Fishing with Undrest, and Undied Cloath; the reason whereof is, Because it being now Obvious to us, the Damage we sustain, that the then Generation did not consider; and it will be so in our Woolls, if we do not timely prevent it; which I think deserves consideration, that by it the *Dutch* gain of us three Millions of Pounds *per annum*, that might have been saved: It's our great concern being forewarn'd not to loose the like in our Woolls.

When the greatest strength of the Nation in People, lies upon the several Relations of Cloathing, *&c.*

When the greatest Customes, and Revenews of his Majesty, ariseth from Cloathing, *&c.*

When the mightiest power upon the Seas in shipping, grows from Cloathing and Fishing.

When the formidable Obligation in Awing all Forreigne States, reſts upon Cloathing, *&c.*

Even when the Practice, and Trade of Tranſporting its Materials in many places, is become an open Profeſſion; if this calls not for ſome Allowance in me, for the Method, I muſt be ſilent, and humbly Beg pardon for appearing in Publick.

Some Letters by way of Complaint from beyond the Seas.

Liſle, *March*, 16. 1669.

WE *have here a miſerable Tarriff lately come forth, that Taxes* Serges, *at* 25 Florens per 100. *weight,* Cloath *at* 40. Cottens, Raſiers, Kerſies, *at* 10 Florens per 100 *weight*; *the* French *ſhew little reſpect to the King of* England *in this: The miſtry is the great quantity of Wooll that is ſtolen out from* England *into* France, *which makes them audatious, and at the Burream, they will tell you down right, that the Woollen Fabricks of* England, *are altogether unneceſſary in his Majeſties of* France *his Dominions, becauſe they ſay they can make as good or better themſelves; But if they had not our Wooll, they would not ſay ſo: Thus we* Engliſh *have our throats cut with our own Weapons; and I wonder there is no one in* England *ſenſible of this grand Evil, as to Demonſtrate it to his Majeſty and Council in* England: *In time ſtrangers will not care two pence for our* Engliſh *woollen Manufactures.* Holland *draws from* Ireland *whole Ships Loading of Wooll, beſides what comes from* England *being ſtolen out from the* Kentiſh, Eſſex, *and* Suſſex *Coaſts, into* France, Holland, Zealand, *and* Flanders: Dover, *and* Canterbury, *being the only Neſt to harbour ſuch Night-Rogues, who are as ſo many Wolves to devour the Glory and Well-being of our Nation, which no Law I perceive will reſtrain them like Hempen Halters.*

Liſle,

The French *are now got into a way of making a Low-price-sort of Cloath, called* Searge de Berry, *which comes as cheap as Northern Cloath, and of much better Wooll, it is about 5 quarters broad; they have so much, in which they have cloathed a great number of their Souldiers; and now the King of* France *hath lately made an Order, to enjoyn the Fabrickers to make it of the same breadth as* Englisſh *Broad-cloath; so our Low-price-cloath is like to come to nothing, and all made of* Englisſh *Wooll.*

In another Letter treating of this Matter of Wooll, of the great quantities coming into France; *thus our Englishmen have the Reputation, as they will betray their Fathers for two pence, it is no marvel that they will betray their Countrey: But I will detain you no longer.*

Theſe things conſidered, it's matter of Lamentation that we here in *England*, ſhould be called upon from beyond-Sea, to look to our ſelves, and to preſerve our Trade. And whereas in the firſt Letter, the Gentleman wonders at the Stupidity of us in *England*; and cauſe there is to wonder; yet I think it requiſite to Inſert what hath been done by Demonſtrating it to his Majeſty, and what his Majeſty hath done to prevent that Evil. Firſt, There hath been before his Majeſty the Matter it ſelf, (*viz.*) The quantity of Wooll Exported. Secondly, The manner how. And Thirdly, The evil Conſequences thereof, as at large appeareth in the enſuing Lines. Now, to trouble the Reader with the particulars, will be tedious, and make the Entry ſwell beyond its bounds, but briefly ſome few Hints how I have gone on Gradually ſtep by ſtep.

1. Firſt, in *October* 67. being in *Rumney* Marſh in *Kent*, where *I* uſed to buy Wooll, and miſſing near 1500 Packs in a ſhort time, and was credibly informed, that in one Night, there were twelve Shallops Loaden with Wooll, did obſerve the motion of thoſe men, and cauſed a parcel of Wooll to be Seiſed, that

that was going at night to be Shipt aboard a French Shallop.

2. I came up to *London* leaving my own private Concerns, to acquaint the Parliament what Danger the Trade was in, and so much the more, because the *French* King had put such an Impost upon our *English* Woollen Manufacturies, as I was informed to be no less than 20 or 30 *per cent*; and soon after, I found it so by experience in a small parcel of Drapery, which I adventured to *Deep*; and thus the said King did incourage his Subjects, having our Wooll to work it out, and so much the cheaper than we, as in the ensuing Leaves doth more at large appear.

The Parliament upon the Petition that I presented, ordered the Business to be considered by a Committee, in which Orders (so far as I can remember) these two things were included. First, that there might be an Address made to his Majesty to Wear, and to Incourage the Wearing of the *English* Manufacturies. Secondly, To put a greater Impost upon the *French* Linnen, to incourage the Planting and Sowing of *Flax*, and *Hemp* in *England*; this was to Ballance what the *French* King had before given an Example, and I hope will be good in the end by it, both as to the wearing of our *English* Manufacturies, which I was glad to see then, and also now again practised; and for Encouragement of Linning, somthing may be done also, there being some steps made therein by a Bill depending.

After the Adjournment of the Parliament, I petitioned his Majesty and Privy Council, for a Party of Horse to be in *Kent* aforesaid, by the Sea-side, and some Frigots to be at Sea (untill the Parliament was to Assemble again) his Majesty immediately granted the said Petition; and I attending sometimes at Sea, and sometimes at Land, with one, sometimes two Servants, and Horses, by which means there was near a thousand Packs of Wooll, that was prevented of being Exported that Summer.

In *September* 68. the Parliament not coming together to perfect the Bill depending, several Proposals were made to his Majesty in Council; soon afterwards was chosen a Council of Trade, consisting of some of his Majesties Privy Council, and some Merchants, and other able men; to which Coun-

cil

cil was referred all the Proposals before mentioned, with this Addition from his Majesty, (*viz.*) *You are very strictly to inquire, and diligently to inform your selves by what ways and practises, the Wooll of this Kingdom comes to be Stolen, Imbezeled, sent away into Foreign parts contrary to Law, what places, &c. are most suspected in* England, *or elsewhere; and who doth Buy the said Wooll in those places, to the end that nothing of care or watch may be omitted; but that all such strickt and severe courses be taken, that an evil so mischievous, and inconvenient, may be totally prevented.* Which said Council (after large Debate) did return their Opinion, that although there was some defects in the Law, yet the principle cause, was the want of Execution; therefore they desired that the care of that Business should be especially recommended to the President, and Governours of *Christs* Hospital, in *London*, for these following Reasons.

1. Because the charge of that Affair, was too much for any private Person.

2. Because the said Persons can have no private Interest, by the ill, or overdoing, or neglecting thereof.

3. It is their common Interest to look carefully after it, because the same Persons are Governours of *Blackwel-Hall*, which is the common Market for Woollen Manufacturies.

4. Many of them are at Leisure, being of competent Estates, and past their middle Age.

5. They are a Court already formed, being fitted with Rooms, and Officers, Methods, and Conveniences, *&c.*

6. We hope this will give great content to City, and Countrey.

The 2*d.* of *April* 69. his Majesty did order a Commission under the great Seal of *England* for that purpose, to the said Governours, but some Objections being in their way, principally the want of Money, did not so enter upon it; which said Commission I procured upon my own Cost and Charge.

About *August* 69. I petitioned his Majesty for some thing to be done in *Ireland*, and a Letter was written by the Kings Order, to the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, on purpose about Wooll; after his Commission was Sealed, the effect thereof

was, that in six weeks time after he came to *Ireland*, there was Landed in *Minehead*, near a 1000. Packs of Wooll more in that time, than had in some years before, and the like at *Chester*, and *Liverpool*, proportionably; as I was credibly informed, there being such quantities before Exported beyond Sea, as was Asserted in the House of Commons, to be no less than one hundred thousand Packs.

Immediately after, I procured the discovery of five Vessels that went into *Callis*, in *France*, Laden with Wooll, and all in two days time; which said Discovery, following of it, there hath been near a 100 persons found guilty, 8 or 10 Vessels taken, and about 140 Bags of Wooll, being intended for Transportation, Seised and Condemned; all this in *Kent* (besides some small parcels in other places) and had not the Officers (at least one man) compounded with all the famous Transporters of Wooll in *Kent*, and thereby prevented me in prosecuting the said Transporters, and Re-delivered these Boats that were Seised and condemned, I had done very much, if not altogether destroyed that evil practice, at least in *Kent*: For about *October*, *November*, *December*, and *January*, (in 1669.) there was such a stop put upon it, upon that discovery I had made, and the fears amongst the Transporters, that there was no Wooll, or very little, Transported in these Months; but as soon as the said Officer, the Compounder-General for *Kent*, had Critically got into his old Road, and compounded as formerly, and offered Deputations to some of the Grand Transporters (if they would have paid for it) the Transporters went on as furious as ever, when they know they can come off so: What if it cost a man 10 or 20 pound in a year, if he get 2 or 300 pound by it, and is assured of his discharge? by this means the Kingdom is greatly Impoverished, and loose its Trade. (I was informed that the parcel of Wooll mentioned in *page* 30. that was Seised in *London*, and condemned, is now bought by a Transporter.) But upon a motion made before the Barrons of the Exchequer, in *Easter* Term last, there was a Rule given in Court, and ordered to be entered; that from that time forward, no Licence should be allowed in Court, without the Appro-

Approbation of two persons; one to controul the other; and that all the Wooll that is Seised and Condemned, to be brought up to *London*.

And as to that of *Ireland*, having an Order from the Farmers of his Majesties Customs, to Examine what is Inserted in *page* 17. of the fraudulent Certificates in all the *Southern* Ports, and when I came to *Exon*, I found that an *Irish* Merchant, one *Blake*, had been tampering with some Officers there, about the Form of their Seal, and the Names of their Officers; and not accomplishing his ends there, did elsewhere procure the said Frauds in some petty Port, as I was credibly informed, and afterwards found it so. For when I did upon this Information, write presently to *Ireland*, to two persons to make an enquiry, they found the said *Blake* in *Gallaway* (concerned in all, or most of those five Vessels mentioned in *pag.* 22.) to get up the Bonds, but he was prevented; and by that means much good hath been done, and more may, if followed, and not suffer such quantities to be Shipt as formerly, upon no consideration whatsoever; and now it is seasonable to give some touch of what was propounded in the Honourable House of Commons, about permitting Wooll to be Transported from *Ireland*, taking it for granted, that there was the quantity Exported, as above specified, and being under the consideration of Raising Money for his Majesties present supply. I was informed that this motion was made, That if Wooll was suffered to be Exported from *Ireland*, paying 2 *d.* or 3 *d. per* pound Custome, it would, First, make it so Dear to Forraigners, that the *English* could undersell them in the Manufactury. Secondly, *It* would raise a great Revenue to his Majesty. Thirdly, It would be an inducement to the Officers, to be more careful to look after the Custome, and so less would go: This seemed to many Wise Grave Senators at first, to be very Feazable, until I gave Answer to it. And that was thus,

Answ. 1. As to 2 *d.* or 3. *d. per* pound dearer, signifies nothing: For if they Enter 10 Packs, there shall go off a 100 Packs Unentred. But grant it did all pay that Custome there in *Ireland*, it pays no Custome when it's Imported in *Holland*, *Flanders*,

Flanders, or *France*; and then to consider the Custome is paid here to his Majesty upon our Woollen Manufactury, when Exported, which is about five pound for a Pack of Worsted-stuffs, *&c.* and it's such Wooll that is covered; and that as before the *French* King laying such an Impost upon our *English* Woollen Manufacturies, of 20 or 30 *per cent*, this overballanceth by ten parts the first Reason, and besides about the Manufactors working so much cheaper, as in *page* the *7th.* which I humbly suppose, is a sufficient Answer to the first Reason of the Motion.

Answ. 2. As to his Majesties Revenue by 2 *d.* or 3 *d. per* pound, is answered in short; The Custome paid as above upon the Export of our Woollen Manufacturies, is double that Custome; but the Custome upon the Importation of the Product thereof, may amount to three times the worth of the Pack of Wooll; considering *page* the *5th.* from hence may be concluded, That his Majesties damage by the quantity that is asserted to be Transported, cannot be less than one Million of pounds Sterling; so that this also is Answered.

Answ. 3. As to the Officers inducement, I shall answer in short, by asking this single Question, (*viz.*) Which in reason can be the greatest Inducement, 3 *d. per* pound for Custome, or 3 *s. per* pound Forfeiture, if Shipt to be Transported, which is now in Force and Recoverable? But there was more in the bottom. For within a day or two of the said Motion, there was a Noble Lord did affirm in the Committee for Wooll, that his Lordship was offered a hundred thousand pound Sterling, to pass an Act for Transportation of Wooll; and besides, there is a Petision of many years standing, that within this few months I had a view of, for Combed Wooll to go off upon the same pretence as before; alledging it is course Wooll, and not for the Clothier. It's true, that it is not fit for Cloath, but it is for Worsted-stuffs, and Stockens, which is as prejudicial, if not more than Clothing Wooll, as in *pag.* 3.

The

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I. *First is discovered in general the Riches of* England, *in the abundance of Commodities; and by it the multitude and variety of Manufactures by a due Improvement,* England *might be a general Mart for the whole World; also, so conveniently situated in all respects, and by good consequence, his Majesty might be the greatest Prince,* Page 1.

II. *The Advantage, the* Dukes *of* Burgundy *had by our Wooll, until King* Edward *the Third, it was Exported at* 6 d. per pound, *and many* English *Merchants Transported themselves with it; the Cloath returned from* Burgundy *at* 10 s. per Yard, *by which it's plain what* England *lost,* 2.

III. *The Wisdom and Care of the said King* Edward *the Third, not only in confining his Wooll, by very strict Laws to* England, *but in the Replanting of his own Subjects, who had been long settled in* Flanders, *and so inviting Cloathers over to convert his Wools into Cloathing, and to add something more than is inserted in* page 2. *and* 3. *Upon a Visitation made by himself to the* Duke *of* Burgundy; *during his Residence there, he imployed such able Agents amongst the* Flemish *Cloathers, as (barely upon his promises) he prevailed with great Numbers of them to come into* England *soon after him, where he most Royally performed those Promises, as at large appeareth in that History.*

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X. *That by the Loss of Trade, which is by Exportation of Wooll, the Farmers loss in the price of Beef, Mutton, and Corn, is and may be three or four Fold the worth of a Pack of Wooll; and hence it is, that there are so many Farmers, and Grasiers undone, and more, unavoidably will follow, if not timely prevented, as at large appeareth,* 9. and 10.
XI. *Some Notes collected out of* Sir Walter Rawleighs *Observations, to confirm those Assertions, about Cloath Transported Rough; and only for want of Dressing and Dying, there was Loss to the Merchant and Labourers in* 55. *Years, above* 20. *Millions; besides the Loss, for want of increasing of our Shipping, and also the King in his Customes, many Thousand pounds* per annum. 11. and 12.
XII. *That by the Harmonious content and pleasure (one in another) in Trade, all degrees are Employed, Enriched, or both; and the Evil*

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XIII. *The Loſs is one Million* per annum, *by the Exportation of Wooll; but I muſt enlarge, and add Two Millions* per annum, *for the Augmentation of the quantity of Wooll, as in* page *the* 8th. *in which his Majeſties Dammage cannot be leſs than One hundred thouſand pounds* per annum, 15.

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ERRATA.

PAge 5. line 4. for 60. read 90. and l. 17. for 123. r. 120. p. 17. l. 14. for *ſealed*, r. *ſeized*, and l. 19. for *Perſecuters* r. *Proſecutors*. p. 19. l. 32. for *in* r. *and*, p. 20. l. 5. for *yon* r. *yet*, p. 29. l. 22. for 23. and 27. r. 22. 37. p. 36. l. 25. for *at* r. *and*.

The great Loſs and Damage to *ENGLAND*, by the Tranſportation of WOOLL to Forreign Parts.

THere is no King nor Prince in the World, known by experience or upon Record; that hath ſuch means to ſupport their Splendour and Greatneſs as his Majeſty of Great *Britain*; nor has any Country or Nation ſuch variety of Staple-Commodities within it ſelf, and in ſuch abundance, as hath the Kingdom of *England*: So that if thoſe Advantages were duly improved, *England* might be a general Mart for the whole World; and then by conſequence be the Glory thereof. That thoſe Advantages are not improved is too too obvious to all that look into it; By the ſore Complaints that are frequently made of the great Poverty, and decay thereof; And indeed (which is worſt of all) by that general deſperation of Spirit, which will not put forth a hand to help, ſupport, or prevent the Total deſolation of our Country, upon a prepoſſeſt Opinion, that all Endeavours will be rendred Fruitleſs and Abortive.

The Conſideration whereof, hath greatly prompted me (who muſt confeſs my ſelf the meaneſt of thouſands, more concerned) to uſe the utmoſt of my little skill and unwearied diligence (though but as the Woman's Mite) to the right management of ſo great an Undertaking, that the threatned Ruine of all may be prevented, and (if poſſible) ſome good part of that which is Loſt may be recovered. I ſhall confine my ſelf to thoſe things only whereof I have had not only credible Information, but a conſiderable (though a ſad) experimental knowledge; and in a

more particular and especial manner, that of the Manufacture of Wooll in *England*, which, amongst Many, is the Richest Treasure in his Majesties Dominions; the flower, strength, and sinews of this Nation; a Band uniting the People into Societies for their own Utility: It is the Milk and Honey to the Grazier and Country Farmer; the Gold and Spices of the East and West *Indies*, to the Merchant, and Citizens; the continued supply of Bread to the Poor; and, in a word, the Exchequer of Wealth, and Staple of Protection to the whole, both abroad and at home; and therefore of full merit to be had in perpetual remembrance, defence, and encouragement, for the most advantageous Improvements thereof.

The *Wool* of *England* (before it was manufactured within it self) was always of great account and esteem abroad; sufficiently testified unto, by the great amity which it begat, and for many hundred years (unviolably) maintained, between the Kings of *England*, and Dukes of *Burgundy*, only from the great benefit that (from that Commodity) did accrew to that People: insomuch, that the *English Wools*, they received at 6*d. per* Pound, they returned again (through their Industrious Manufacture thereof) in Cloath at 10*s. per* Yard, to the great inriching of that State, both in the advancement of the Revenues of their Soveraign, and in a full employment (thereby) continued among the People; whereby the Merchants of this Nation were occasioned, (as a People unwilling to be wholly dispriviledged of so great a benefit) to transport themselves (with their Families, in great numbers) into *Flanders*; from whence they held a constant Commerce with most parts of the World. This continued without Intermission, between *England* and *Burgundy*, until King *Edward* the 3*d.* made his mighty Conquest over *France* and *Scotland*; and as a suitable improvement of so great a mercy, did wisely project, and also accomplish, the manufacture of *Wools* within the Bowels of this Kingdom, to the great inriching of his own People, and also to the peopling of his new Conquered Dominions. The memory of whose wisdome and care for his People, is worthy to be had in Remembrance by *English* Men, unto the Worlds end.

The said King having thus setled the manufacture of *Wools* within

in the Kingdome of *England*, confined it by a penal State, which (at first) reached not only to Goods, Chattels, and Lands, but also to Members, and Life it self; but, in a short time, repealed the two latter thereof, continuing the other in its full force to remain to future Generations: Which exceeding great advantage to the propriety of the *English* Trade, hath now continued this Three Hundred years, by the vigilancy of the Kingdoms Monarchs, and the protection of its Laws, in the continued careful execution thereof upon Offenders, with more than a little diligence, to provide against the thirsting desires of Foreiners to wrest this Nations Priviledge (of so great a moment) out of *English* hands; which by the providence of God (through the care of our Ancestors) has been (for many Ages) enjoyed by the Nation, as it is indeed its proper right. But so it is, that (for some years past) the diligence of Foreiners to enrich themselves upon us, has so much exceeded our care to preserve our selves, that it's now come to, if not beyond, a question, Who have the greatest benefit of the manufacture of *English Wools*, They who have no Right unto it, or, They to whom of Right it doth belong?

That this is indeed so, will appear, by considering that not only *Holland*, *Flanders*, and *Zealand* have long sucked the sweetness of the Sinews of our Trade; but *France* is likewise learning to be too hard for us, as is manifest by the great quantities of *Wools*, that (of late years) have been Transported from *England* and *Ireland* thither. How injurious it must be to us is also unquestionable, if we consider the consequence thereof, which was (without question) much in the eye of our Ancestors, as appears by what is above hinted in *Edward* the 3*ds*. time, and in several Kings Reigns since.

Every Pack of *Wooll* sent to *France*, doth prevent us (not only) of the benefit of the manufacture thereof, but of two Packs more besides it self, *viz*. Thus; It being Combing, and Combed *Wooll* (for the most part) exported thither. The *French* (having no *Wools* of their own, but such as are very coarse) are not able to make Cloth, or fine Stuffs, without the conjunction of ours therewithal; there being none (to my best information) in all the World fit for that purpose (but ours only) except in North-

Holland, and that a ſmall quantity of fine Worſted *Wooll*; all other being likewiſe coarſe, but *Spaniſh Wooll*; and that much too fine, eſpecially for worſted Stuffs, and not in any wiſe fit for Combing; ſo that without *Engliſh* or *Iriſh Wools*, there can be no quantity of fine worſted Stuffs, nor a middle ſort of Cloth made in the whole World. Neither will any *Wools* be all mixt together, but *Engliſh* and *Spaniſh* (for Cloth only), becauſe the *Spaniſh* is with the *Engliſh* of one nature; being formerly *Engliſh* Sheep, though now much finer for the alteration of the Climate, and the nature of the Land whereon it is fed, as by good Experience appeareth here in *England*, both near and at a further diſtance.

Wherefore the Exportation of *Engliſh Wools* into *France*, muſt of neceſſity be greatly prejudicial to this Nation; not only in the quantity ſent over, but alſo in the advantage which is thereby given to them to manufacture a double portion of their *Wooll*, (which (formerly) was little worth) into ſuch commodities as ſpoils us of the advantages of our proper Trades, not only thither, but alſo into other parts, *viz.* in theſe three Reſpects.

Firſt, The Combed of the *Engliſh Wooll* makes Wooff for the Warps of the *French Wooll* (or rather of the Turkey Sheep) and ſo takes up (it may be) as much as the quantity above ſpecified, to every Pack of *Engliſh Wooll*, without which they can (only) with their *Wooll*, make Ruggs, and at the beſt, Cloth for Sea-men, and the like.

2dly. Their Combings or Pinnions, *viz.* the ſhort *Wooll* that's combed out of the Worſted, ſerves for their Linnen warp to make ſome of their Druggets, becauſe their Linnen being fine ſpun, and coloured, is not diſcernable to all perſons, to be that we call *Linſie-Wolſie*.

3dly. The fineſt ſhort *Engliſh Wooll* is mixed with the loweſt of *Spaniſh Wooll*, called ſhort *Wooll*, for ſome of their beſt Druggets, that is wove upon worſted Chanies; and alſo for a middle ſort of Broad-cloth about 10 *s*. or 12 *s*. *per* Yard. This is the cauſe, I judge, that ſhort *Spaniſh Wooll* is ſo ſcarce here in *England*.

Now if we conſider theſe things together, the dammage of exporting of one Pack from *England* to *France* at about 10*l*. or

12*l*.

12 *l.* Sterling, preventing the manufacturing of two Packs more in *England*, which would be worth 100*l.* *Englands* loſs (in the whole) by the exportation of one Pack of *Wooll* can be little leſs than 60*l.* It being generally combing-*Wool* (as before hinted) that is exported to *France*, which makes Worſted, Stuff-, and Stockins: and beſides the advantage given them (as above aſſerted) by one Pack of rough *Wooll*; it's obvious to all Manufacturers, that a Pack of Worſted (or Cumbed) *Wooll*, worth 20 *l.* at 12 ſcore to the Pack, which is 20 *d per* Pound, and to make it more eaſie to every ordinary capacity; that in Stockins (to ſpeak within compaſs) A Pound of fine *Wooll* would make at leaſt two pair of Hoſe, worth 5 *s.* a pair, that is 10 *s. per* Pound of *Wooll*; or reckon thus, to ordinary Hoſe, three pair to a Pound of *Wooll* at 3 *s.* 4 *d. per* pair, come to the ſame ſum, and 12 ſcore Pound of *Wooll* making a Pack, ſo many pence for the Pound of *Wooll*, ſo many Pounds for the Pack, and a Pack of *Wooll* making 480 pair of Hoſe: which 12 ſcore Angels, being caſt up, is 123 *l.* without any reſpect given to the advantage given them in rough *Wooll*, as before aſſerted.

This, an inſtance for all, moreover, *In it's firſt exportation*, conſidering the Cuſtome when it is imported; the product of all theſe Charges augmenting the 100 *l.* when ſold there, laid out in another Commodity beyond Sea, the Cuſtom thereof being paid there, with Frait and Cuſtom (when imported) in *England*, it's much if it do not more than double the firſt principal.

Now if ſo be, that the exportation of one Pack of *Engliſh Wool*, exported at 10 *l.* or 12 *l.* be neer 200 *l.* dammage to the King and Kingdom in general, by the conſequence; What will be the loſs of exporting 10. or 15 Thouſand Packs into *France*, beſides many to other parts (in two years time) is eaſily accounted (by ſuch) as are concerned in theſe Affairs: and although this Evil is almoſt incredible to many, yet it is too manifeſt, to ſuch as have made it (ſomething) their buſineſs to enquire into it; and not only ſo, but theſe further Inconveniencies muſt (by this means) ariſe upon us.

First, The ſpoyling of our Trade with *France* in all our Wollen manufacture, as doth already appear by the Impoſt put upon the ſame there, from 20 to 40 *per cent.* ſince the great quantity of our *Wools* is exported thither, whereunto woful experience may be a ſufficient witneſs.

And ſecondly, In time it will capacitate the *French* as well as the *Dutch*, (if not much better) to under-ſell our *Engliſh* Merchants in Forreign Parts, nay (poſſibly) in our own Country. To this, I ſhall only mention the words of a Merchant in *Flanders*, by Letters to another here, treating of this matter thus: *We Engliſh have our Throats cut, with our own Weapons; wondering at the ſtupidity of the Engliſh here, that they ſhould omit, to poſſeſs the King's Majeſty with this deplorable and dangerous Caſe, in reſpect to the preſent and future Inconveniences thereof.* By reaſon whereof, as in time the *French* will not only prevent our *Engliſh* manufactures to be ſold in *France*, but alſo bring theirs into *England*, and ſell them for four times the value here, to the great Inriching of themſelves, and the Impoveriſhing the *Engliſh*, only by new fantaſtick Fopperies; for which the *Engliſh* pay not leſs than ſome Hundred Thouſands in a Year, to get themſelves into the *French Mode*.

So much indeed, have we been deceived (in this matter) to our ſhame, as well as to our apparent loſs; that, whereas in time of the Late War with the *Dutch* and *French*, thoſe *French* Druggets were thereby much prevented, many *Engliſh* Striped broad Cloths rent through into three parts (about 10 *s. per* yard, price) being put into the form of *French* Druggets, were ſold in each part at 8 *s. per* yard, and ſo in the whole came to 1 *l.* 4 *s. per* yard: So likewiſe it is certainly true, that many of thoſe Druggets made in *England*, do go for *French*, and in order thereunto, directed to *French Men* in ſome of our Southern parts (from thence been conveighed into *London*, and there ſold for *French Goods*) to have coloured the buſineſs with the Cuſtom-houſe Officers, to ſave the Cuſtom of *French* Druggets: And this might have continued long, before the Cheat had been diſcovered; but being once found out by the Clothier (who could not (to his own private advantage) conceal ſuch an apparent injury to his Country) it was ſoon prevented: This I had an Experimental

mental knowledg of, for the Merchant beſpoke the ſame Goods of me. When I underſtood his end, I did refuſe to make the ſaid Druggets that he deſired me to make; whereby we may come to ſee (with clearneſs) the advantage that that people makes upon our *Engliſh* fancies, by over-ſelling us in the ſame kind of Commodities that they make out of our *Engliſh Wools*, joyned (as before-minded) with their own; having alſo an advantage thereunto, by the cheapneſs of the Manufactors thereof, beyond what we can do; the *French* being very populous, and living harder than we can in *England*; as is evident by their Linnens, that, paying Frait and Cuſtom, with profit to the Merchant, yet can be afforded cheaper than can be made in *England*.

But ſo it is, that the advantage we give them, beſides in the mixtures of our *Wools* with theirs, is ſuch, that, whereas their *Wool* of it ſelf is not worth 4 *l. per* Pack; being mixed with ours, becomes ſo fit for Worſted Stuffs, as that it comes to be worth no leſs than 12 *l. per* Pack. So that, all theſe things conſidered, it becomes obvious to every Eye, (that doth not (wilfully) cloſe it ſelf) that the exportation of *Wools* from *England* and *Ireland* is of a dangerous and deſtructive Nature to the very being of the Trade of this Kingdom. What ever Objections have been made thereunto (with reſpect to the Graziers preſent advantage) whoſe loſs may poſſibly be ſuppoſed (by prohibiting exportation) to be about 20 *s.* in every Pack of *Wooll* that is ſo exported: In anſwer whereunto, I have this to ſay; That, though it may be granted, it will be ſo for a time in this particular Commodity; yet ſuch will (thereby) be the ſpoyl of the General Trade of the Nation, that what is gotten in one, will be loſt in every other Commodity, as Corn, Beefs, and Muttons; on each of which with the *Wools*, the Graziers and Farmers advantage doth much more than equally depend; beſides the inevitable danger of the ruine of our Trade, and ſo conſequently, the ſtarving of our Poor, without ſome extraordinary means for their ſupport; who while the priviledge of our Trade is kept inviolate with other Nations, we have Money plentifully to expend for the advancement of the Farmers and the Graziers; for that is that which chiefly advanceth the Farmer and the Grazier, which is Fleſh and Corn, and not the quantity of *Wooll*, as will afterwards more fully appear.

And

And it hath always been obſerved (informer times) hitherto, that when the Clothiers have had the beſt Trade at *London*, the Farmer did not loſe his ſhare in the advantage thereof in the Country; according to the diſpoſe of Providence, Who hath ordered Nations; but more eſpecially, the People of every Nation (in matters of this kind) to depend upon each other, and ſo to riſe and fall together, as they are deſigned, either to Mercy or to Judgment, by the hand of God.

Theſe things conſidered, with a little deliberation, it will manifeſtly appear, that the exporting of our *Engliſh Wooll*, will not only prove the ſpoyl of our Merchants and Clothiers Trade, and ſo conſequently expoſe the *Poor* to deſperate ſtraits for *ſubſiſtence*, but in ſhort time muſt of neceſſity make the Country mens employment (of every kind) to come to little, and ſo make them uncapable of paying Rent.

For if it be ſo, that, while we have a little Trade, we can hardly live one by another; What may be expected, if our Trade ſhould be taken away? Which is now in more danger by the *French*, than it hath been this 300 years paſt. And then we may conſider, what the price of *Wooll* may be in *England*, when we by our remiſneſs have loſt our Trade, by the skill and circumventing practices of Foreiners, and we helping forwards for a ſuppoſed profit; For there was not more art and skill in our Anceſtors, to bring home the work at firſt to the *Wooll*, and prohibiting the exportation thereof, and ſetling the manufacturing in *England*, than is now to export the Materials manufactured. The neceſſary conſequenee thereof, will be to bring the Price of *Wooll* (as it was 300 years agon, when moſt was exported) to be 6 *d.* a Pound, as appears in a little Piece, called, *The Golden Fleece*, (written by *W.S.* Gent.) in the Year,-- 56. Although the Cloth then made in *Flanders* of our *Wooll* at 6 *d. per* Pound, was ſold here in *England* at 10 *s. per* Yard; when at this day Cloth made in *England* of *Wooll* at 12 *d. per* Pound, will hardly yield 7 *s. per* Yard, which is above 30 *per Cent.* worſe to the *Engliſh* Trade now, than it was to the *Flemmings* formerly.

And though for the preſent, the price of *Wooll* be riſen by its exportation, yet if the quantity lately exported (being no leſs than 20 Thouſand Packs) had been kept in *England*, the quantity

if

if not Ten thouſand Packs more would in time, have been exported in the particular manufactures. For if the *Woolls* was not exported to thoſe places beyond the Seas, there to be manufactured, they muſt of neceſſity have our Woollen manufacture, and then could not have thoſe advantages (as before hinted) by our *Wools*, to improve the *French Wooll*, and ſhort *Spaniſh Wooll*, and their fine-ſpun Linnens.

By all which, it is ſo obvious, that in time to come, the *Wooll* in *England* would be much cheaper, becauſe by the aforeſaid means, leſs *Wooll* would be uſed in *England*, and beſides that which would be uſed, the manufacture would be ſo low, that it could not bear up any price (as is begun already in *France*, and will ſuddenly follow here in *England*) for it is generally reported, that *Wooll* is as cheap in *France* at this Day, as it is in ſome parts where it is uſed in *England*. And if it be ſo now, what in reaſon can be expected, as the effects of theſe two things? *viz.* The firſt, when the great quantity that is lately exported to *France*, with thoſe three Additions before hinted, that the Twenty thouſand Packs helps to work out, and eſpecially moſt making Worſted Stuffs, which goes as far by that means as forty Thouſand Packs of *Wooll* would if uſed in *England*, becauſe it would be made more into ſubſtantial Cloaths, which conſums more *Wool*, than thoſe light and thin Stuffs do: which is a ſufficient Anſwer to that Objection, that the great quantity of any Commodity, that is exported, makes a ſcarcity, and ſo conſequently raiſe its price: the which I muſt confeſs, if it was a conſumptive Commodity, but it is quite contrary in this. For as our experience is, when the *Wooll* was all uſed in *England*, (or very little exported) the *Wooll* was then at 18 *d. per* Pound, and when all or the greateſt part was exported, it was at 6 *d. per* Pound.

The wiſe Man ſaith, *What is, hath been*; and, *what hath been, may be again*; and ſo no new thing.

I ſhall make a ſhort Review of the Graziers and Farmers preſent loſs: In the greateſt Commodity, which pays his Rent, as was formerly hinted. Suppoſe (through want of Trade) Mutton be ſold at 6 *d. per* Quarter the leſs, (which is but little) being 2 *s. per* Sheep, and there being ſome Sheep that 100. will produce a Pack of *Wool* (though ſome leſs) that comes to 10 *l.* which

is the worth of the Pack of *Wooll*, (and ſo proportionably as to the Beefs) which is wholly loſt to the Grazier.

And for the Corn (as I ſuppoſe) there may be about 50 *ls.* worth, (as far as I can judge in my Travels, to One Hundred Sheep throughout the Nation, which for want of a Trade, it may not (at ſome ſeaſons) come to Thirty or Forty at moſt, and if a good Trade, it may be worth Sixty or Seventy, by which means, it may eaſily be demonſtrated, how the Farmers come to be impoveriſhed.

For the advantage of the Tenant conſiſts in the advance of the greateſt Commodity that payes his Rent, which is not in *Wooll*, but in Corn, Mutton and Beefs, and it is a neceſſary conſequence. That there being ſo many thouſand Families depending upon the Cloathing Trade (as was before hinted) that was inſtrumental to advance the price of the Corn, *&c.* That where-ever Trade is, there People are moſt populous, and when thoſe perſons are deprived of their Trade, depending wholly upon it, they muſt unavoidably come to the Pariſhes, which is in many places begun already, and Daily encreaſed and feared in time, will ſo increaſe, that the Poor will be expecting more than there will be to contribute to them. Although it be a Degreſſion, yet ſuffer an inſtance of one Pariſh; that when there was but ſome obſtruction to their Trade, by the Late Sickneſs, and *Dutch* War, the rate came for their Poor to Eight Hundred Pound *Sterling* in one Year, and I have been credibly informed, the Land to the ſaid Town, is not worth one Thouſand Pound *per annum*, and hapily one fifth part the dearer, becauſe of the Trade, as it is in all Cities, or Towns of Trade; than what can reaſonably be judged, when the Trade from ſuch a Town is wholly loſt, as is already in ſome parts in this Nation.

To return to the Farmer, as being the emediate Perſon in this buſineſs, from hence may be concluded, that the Farmers Loſs for want of Trade, is fourfold greater then can be the advantage of the ſale to the tranſporter of *Wooll*, by (the exportation thereof unmanufactured.)

I ſhall now endeavour to give ſome particular account how all are concerned; And before I do this, give me leave to inſert the Obſervation of a worthy Author Sir *Walter Rawleigh*, who ſaith,

ſaith, *That, then which was in King James's Reign, about four-ſcore thouſand undreſt and undyed Cloaths yearly were Tranſported: whereby it was evident, that the Kingdom hath been yearly deprived of about four Hundred Thouſand Pounds, which in fifty five years is near Twenty Millions, that would have been gained by the Labour of Poor Workmen in that time, which the Merchants gains for bringing in dying Stuffs, and returns of Cloaths dreſt and dyed, with other benefits to the Realm, beſides exceeding enlarging of Traffick, and increaſe of Ships and Mariners.*

There would have been gained in that time, about three Millions by increaſe of Cuſtoms upon Commodities returned for Cloaths dreſt and dyed, and for dying Stuffs which would have been more plentifully brought in and uſed for the ſame.

There hath been alſo tranſported in that time yearly, by Bayes, Northern *and* Devonſhire *Kerzyes White, about Fifty Thouſand Cloaths, counting three Kerzyes to a Cloath, whereby hath been loſt above Five Millions by thoſe ſorts of Cloaths, in that time which would have come to Poor Work-men for their Labour, with Cuſtoms for dying Stuffs, and the Peoples profit for bringing them in with returns of other Commodities and Fraights for Shipping.*

Bayes are Tranſported white into Amſterdam, *and being there dyed and dreſt, are ſhipped into* Spain, Portugal, *and other Kingdoms, where they are ſold in the name of* Flemiſh *Bayes, ſetting their own Town Seals upon them; ſo that we loſe the very name of our Home-bred Commodities, and other Countries get the Reputation and Credit thereof. Lamentable it is, that this Land ſhould be deprived of ſo many above-mentioned Millions, as that our Native Commodities of Cloath, ordained of God for the natural Subjects, being ſo Royal and Rich in it ſelf, ſhould be driven to ſo ſmall advantage of Reputacion and Profit to your Majeſty and People, and ſo much improved and intercepted by Strangers; conſidering that God hath enabled and given your Majeſty power to advance dreſſing and dying, and Tranſporting all your Cloaths within a year or two: I ſpeak it knowingly, to ſhew how it may be done laudibly, lawfully, and approved to be honourable, feaſeable, and profitable.*

He obſerves alſo the increaſe of his Majeſties Cuſtoms, by bring-

ing in and ſpending of dying Stuffs, as alſo ſtrength in Shipping, and ſetting ſo many thouſands of Poor on work; alſo noting, that in the Low-Countries, where theſe Cloaths are dreſt and dyed, they ſtretch them to ſuch unreaſonable length, contrary to our Law, that they prevent and foreſtale our Markets, and croſs the juſt prohibition of our State and Realm, by their Agents, and Factors, lying in divers places with our own Cloaths, to the great decay of this Kingdome in general, and diſcredit to our Cloaths in particular. Again, he adds, that if the accounts were truly known, it would be found that they make not clear profit only by Cloth Tranſported rough, undreſt, and undyed, Sixty Thouſand Pounds a Year; but it is moſt apparent your Majeſty, in your Cuſtoms, your Merchants in their Sales and Prizes,; your Subjects in their Labours, for lack of dreſſing and dying; your Ships and Mariners in not bringing in of dying Stuffs, ſpending of Alum (*if not* Copperas) *are hindred yearly near a Million of Pounds: So that Trade is driven to that great hinderance of your Majeſty and People, by permitting your Native Commodities to paſs rough, undreſt and undyed.* Thus Sir Walter Rawleigh.

Now if it was thus with *England* ſo long agoe, when the Wooll was ſpun and made here into ſubſtantial Cloth; and that for want only of dreſſing and dying, many Millions were loſt to the King and Kingdom: What then hath been the loſs by ſo many thouſand Packs of Wooll exported (without any improvement,) eſpecially that to *France*, the conſequence of which, is more prejudicial (as hath been demonſtrated) than can be imagined (accounting but one Hundred Pounds dammage by one Pack of Wooll,) of which there are not leſs than ten thouſand yearly, if not much more exported, by which there is dammage a Million of pounds *ſterling*, yearly to this Kingdome, (beſides the ſuffering of the Poor for want of Imployment) out of which his Majeſties dammage cannot be leſs than one Hundred thouſand Pound yearly: The leſſening of Shipping, and diſcouragement of Mariners; the Walls of this Kingdom hereby deſerve alſo to be conſidered.

Next then to his Majeſties loſs, is that of the Merchant and Cloathier; after which muſt follow detriment to all other perſons depending on Trade, there being ſuch a Connexion of

Trades

Trades one to another, and the whole of Trade being enlarged by the abounding of Laborious People. Thoſe ſupply the Farmers and Graziers with money, for to ſupply the Gentry. They again ſcatter it amongſt the Tradeſmen, as may be witneſſed by the building of the City of *London*, how Proviſion and all Conſumptive goods are advanced by it: by which circulation all degrees are either imployed, enriched, or both; and hence naturally comes Content, Harmony, and Pleaſure, one in another; the Poor being by Imployment delivered from fear of want, the Gentry, Merchant, and Tradeſmen, by the eſtabliſhment of Trade therein. This rationally is the ſtrength of any People, Poverty and Idleneſs bring their Shame and Ruine, which would unavoidably follow want of Trade. And ſo much the more where the greateſt Trade hath been; if it fails, the greater Poverty is and will be. And to inſtance, as here, in *London*, the Trade in Proviſion is the more, ſo by Conſequence it muſt be dear, and ſo beſt for all; ſo of the other hand, if the City ſhould be forced to keep ſo many thouſands, when all their work is done, as is now in the Building, it would be a great burden: ſo the caſe is in *England* in this particular, where great Trade have been formerly kept, and drawn ſeveral Families thither, and have raiſed Commodities there; but when it fails, it is a miſerable ſtate and condition thoſe places are in. To return, in ſhort there is ſuch Connextion and Dependancy one upon another in *England*, that if one fail, all the reſt more or leſs, either more near, or remotely are concerned; as in the natural body, when any Member fails, the whole ſuffers thereby; and as all Trades and Degrees of men may ſuffer by one failing in Trades, and in none more probably. I will ſay then this of Wooll, as Merchants, Articificers, Farmers, Sea-men, Fiſher-men, being the people, which by their ſtudy and labour do principaly, if not only bring in, or give occaſion to the bringing in of Wealth to the Nation, and other kind of people (*viz.*) Nobility, Gentry, Lawyers, Phyſicians, Schollars of all ſorts; Shop-keepers are they that receive from theſe, and diſtribute it again, and all are conſequently concerned in this rich Treaſure of Wooll, becauſe this being a Manufacture at home, ſets more hands at work than half the Nation.

May I not with modeſty and within Compaſs, ſay three parts of Laborious and Induſtrious People? Conſidering that moſt of the Shipping is imployed in this Affair, and alſo ſo many Trades that depend immediately upon this of Cloathing, that moſt of other Trades are but for Proviſion, either in Food or Conveniencies for Cloathing: and ſo from his Majeſty to the meaneſt, all are more or leſs concerned, *The King moſtly*; not only in that his People are by that moſt imployed and provided for, (nor in that ſuch a Staple Trade, the like whereunto the World hath not maintained with ſo good Advantage;) but becauſe ſo great a Revenue comes directly into him upon the Trade, occaſioned thereby: Thus as the King gains, or ſuffers moſt, ſo the perſons that have the greateſt Eſtates or Trades, and ſo all proportionable to the Beggar. And alſo conſidering that an accuſtomary thing begets ſuch an habit that is hard to reduce; as in our rough and undreſt Cloath to *Holland*, ſo it will be with all our Manufactures in *France*; nay I am informed that the *French* hath not only impoſed a great Tax upon our Woollen Manufactures, from twenty to fourty *per cent*, but have alſo (as is affirmed, beſides that their Impoſition) abſolutely prohibited our Cloaths coming there. I am the more large in the Demonſtration of this affair, not only becauſe this hath coſt me many years labour and ſtudy to conſult all ſorts of concerned perſons, beſides mine own experience about it; nor becauſe it is ſo hard to convince people of the meaneſt capacity, but ſome of the wiſer ſort, how to cure this diſmal malady: which ſome deſpairing of, have rather thoughts of ſetting up ſome other Manufacture (in Lieu of endeavours to prevent the exportation of Wooll and Manufacturing of that at home, looking thereon as a thing not to be overcome,) as that of Linnens in ſome capable parts of *England*, and a better improvement in the product of Forreign Plantations, which may alſo be ſet upon together herewith as an Addition; ſo as ſeveral ſorts of Perſons maybe ſet better on work, not capable of this employment, and yet no prejudice to this of Cloathing: For all other Countries have the Advantage of *England*, or are equal to us in other Manufactures proper to their Countries, but not in this of Cloathing: and it will be found that all Trades in *England*, wholly diſtinct from this of Cloathing, bring not the tythe of Advantage that this doth.

Since

Since men cannot rationally believe the effects to be greater than the cauſe, the moſt of other Manufactures either is in being, or brought to uſe, by the Manufactures of Wooll; even from the Farmer to the Merchant, all are concerned in this of Wooll; as may hereafter more appear. It now remains that we ſum up *Englands* Loſs by the Exportation of our Wooll to Forreign Parts; not only in the Advantage we might have by the Manufacturing thereof, here in *England*, as formerly noted; but alſo in the importing of *Dutch* Cloath, and more in *French* Manufactures, becauſe *England* improves not their own Wools; and of the humour of *Engliſh* people, in putting ſuch a value upon *French* Fancies, when themſelves are in a better capacity, if improved, to produce the like, or better, and ſave the following Sums.

1. One Million of Pounds *Sterling* yearly, in the Exportation of our Wooll.

2. Five Hundred Thouſand Pounds in Rough Cloath, which is but half what Sir *Walter Rawleigh* obſerves in his time.

3. Many Thouſands of Pounds by the Importing of *Dutch* and *French* Woollen Manufacturies.

And laſtly, the evil conſequences thereof in looſing our Shipping, which would be encouraged thereby, and are the ſtrength or Walls of our Kingdom, as more particularly doth appear hereafter.

Having now diſcovered the Dammage it is to *England*, in the tranſportation of *Wooll* from the King to the meaneſt, I ſhall endeavour alſo to diſcover the methods how it is done; before I ſhall preſcribe a Remedy (for it is not enough to know Diſtempers, eſpecially ſuch that are ſo Conſumptive,) it is requiſite to know the Cauſe of theſe Diſtempers; or elſe the ſuppoſed Remedies will in time come to be a diſeaſe, as it is too much in this caſe at this day in *England*: Where the Cauſes are miſtaken, the Remedies are conſequently miſapplyed, whereby a

Diſeaſe

diſeaſe in ſuppoſition becomes one in *Fact*; the methods or ways of this evils are----Firſt, in *Rumny-Marſh* in *Kent*, where the greateſt part of rough *Wooll* is exported from *England*, put aboard *French* Shallops by night, ten or twenty men well Armed to guard it; ſome other parts there are, as in *Suſſex*, *Hampſhire*, and *Eſſex*, the ſame methods may be uſed, but not ſo conveniently. The ſame for Combed *Wooll* from *Canterbury*, they will carry it ten or fifteen miles at Night towards the Sea, with the like Guard as before; but for other parts it muſt be done partly by the Remiſneſs of the Officers of his Majeſties Cuſtoms, and eaſie Compoſition for the Forfeitures of the Bonds, as more ſhall appear anon.

And then for Combed *Wooll* in other Parts, ſome is Shipped off from *London* for Bales of Drapery; nay ſome at *Lime*, and alſo at *Exon*, where there is ten thouſand Pounds *Sterling* weekly laid out in the woollen Manufactury, which is moſt for Workmens Wages: I know no place clear; and then another reaſon, why perſons are not detected, is, becauſe all the *Wools* that have been taken in thoſe Parts, where moſt hath been exported, have been ſuffered to go off at the ſame place after Judgments paſt, and by the Officers, to the ſame Perſons at a low rate, being under rated to thoſe very men that intended to Ship it at firſt: ſo that the evil is never like to be avoyded that way; only that which is taken, happily may be a little the dearer, to keep the Trade going; for I have enquired, and cannot underſtand, but of two parcels of *Wooll* that have been ſeaſed on in *Kent*, that have been uſed in *England*, but all ſent away, and ſo his Majeſties providence is cheated, who keeps Servants at great Wages to prevent ſuch abuſes.

And then another Cheat is under a pretence of *Wooll* from *Hampton*, to the Iſlands of *Jerſey* and *Gernſey*, and ſometimes from other Parts which is againſt the Law; for there is no *Wooll* to be exported to thoſe Iſlands, but only from *Hampton*, and that by Law ſhould be by weight: but now it goes by groſs, by the Pack when it ſhould be weighed, but I believe not one Pack in Ten is weighed, for three Packs is put into one. Then from *Ireland*,

Ireland, which is the greateſt miſchief of all to *England*, and much increaſed ſince the Act was in force againſt Cattel, the *Iriſh Wooll* can be ſold as cheap in *France*, *Holland*, and *Flanders*, as it is in thoſe Places where *Wooll* is uſed in *England*, which is a great augumentation to us of prejudice for Foreiners to have our *Wooll* ſo cheap as we in *England*, having other Conveniencies to underwork us, as formerly hinted. The ways there muſt be by the careleſneſs of the Officers, in not taking ſolvant ſecurity and exactneſs in the weight of *Wooll*, and true examination of the returns of their Certificates, and partly by eaſie Compoſitions, if not before Bonds are forfeited, and happily much Combed *Wooll* there packt up as before, as Bales of Cloath, or Barrels of Beef, and Shiped as *Iriſh* Cloath; and in all points ſo cunningly carried, as they are ſeldom diſcovered, and never Sealed, as the Statutes in that caſe made and provided, do ſtrictly require.

Here ſee what *W. S.* ſaith: *Now to ſhew you more particularly theſe abuſes, how the Laws are croſſed and daily obſtructed to ſuch as endeavour to ſerve their Country, by ſuch as ought to encourage the Perſecutors; ſure there will be very many practiſes of evil conſequents diſcovered; for firſt in the Cuſtom-Houſe, where Bonds are taken, to the intent that theſe prohibited Commodities paſs not by means of Mariners out of the Nation, but only from Port to Port for accomodation of ſuch Parts as want ſuch Commodities; they are very Remiſe and careleſs in taking of the Sea-mens diſcharge of their Obligatory Conditions; where alſo it is uſual with the Seamen to bring fraudulent Certificates, and ſo to cheat the Kings Providence, who keeps Servants at great wages purpoſely to prevent ſuch abuſes; or if there be a regular return of their Bonds, yet there is commonly a fraudulency in giving them, for the Maſters of Ships will ſo continue their deſigne, as he who is Maſter at giving the Bonds*, and is legally bound, ſhall immediately paſs his Intereſt to another man, who taking charge of the Veſſel and Voyage, is notwithſtanding not engaged in the Poart Bond; and therefore, neither is he accountable for breach of their condition; *Again, when the Port-Bonds are juſtly taken, and as juſtly returned; yet to prevent the true and real detection of the Offender, and to diſhear-*

ten the legal Prosecutor, some Friends of the Offender will clap an Information against him, purposely to hinder and divert others, and soon after will let the Prosecution fall at his pleasure; nay, it hath been said, and peradventure not unjustly, that such preventing Informations have been antidated to the over-throw of the real Information; but when all is granted, and a full and formal hearing, and decree passed to the just condemnation of the Offender: Yet when judgments and inquiries are granted, and do without Errours of the Clarks, (which is not always,) impower the Sheriffs and their Baliffs to see Execution thereof made; it is familiar with those Officers to return a Non est inventus, or a Mortuus est, viz. Not to be found, or dead, even then when the Offenders and the Officers have been known to have been drinking together, at that very time when the Writ should have been executed.

After all this, one step farther will shew how Charity it self abuseth Justice; for let all the former Proceedings be granted, and be candid, and clear, and that the Law be indeed justly and legally executed; the Offender in custody, and nothing remaining; but that he honestly discharge himself with money, seeing Bail will not be admitted; nevertheless upon a lamentable Petition, and urging a great charge of Children to the Bench, the Offender is usually admitted to compound for Ten in the Hundred, or less, when by his offence he hath gained a Hundred for Ten, or more, and peradventure hath undone a hundred Families or more in so doing: Yet all this while the honest Prosecutor, the only man that appears for the good of his Country, who ought by the Law to have the full benefit and advantage of the Law gratis, it being enough that he spend his time for the promotion of the publick Wealth, after it hath cost him several great sums of money, and large expence of time, to bring the Offender to Tryal and Conviction, is dismissed with little or no satisfaction, unless he be rewarded with the brand of an Informing Knave: Surely they who made these Laws for the benefit of themselves and their own Country, did intend a more current and just passage towards them, than thus to be obstructed and baffeled. Such abuses as these made Theodosius say, as it is Recorded, that a wise man did himself

ſelf Injuſtice by hazarding his Wiſdome and Eſtate for the benefit of his Nation; *And therefore ſome have not ſpared to urge, that Cuſtoms and Impoſt, and Toles and Taxes might be taken away from honeſt laborious hazardous Trades and Adventurers, and be put upon litigious Suits at Law, and ſuch as make benefit of their corrupt breath, that is to ſay, upon ſuch Lawyers as abuſe their Clyants, and ſuch malicious Clyants as abuſe the name of a juſt innocent Defendent. Nor is the Loſs in theſe by their Tranſportation all the injury, but when honeſt men well affected to the good of their Country, do deteſt theſe* Caterpellars *of the* Common-wealth, *who make ſo vaſt gain, as hath been denoted upon the materials ſo carefully prohibited, when they do endeavour by due courſe of Law to make ſtoppage thereof, and to have the Offenders puniſhed; ſo many are the evaſions, ſuch combinations and intereſt in the Officers, who ought to puniſh the Offenders; ſuch favour have they in Courts of Juſtice, and deceptions in the Return of Writs, and in general ſuch affronts and diſcouragements as the deareſt Lover of his Country, or moſt intruſted in Trade, dares not attempt to prevent that miſchief which his eyes behold to fall upon his Nation, or which his own perſon feels to pick his Pocket.* Thus far Mr. *W. Smith. not to mention the very ſame things above aſſerted that I have met withall.*

From hence its to be lamented, to ſee what the conſequence of thoſe things are, I did think to have propounded ſome things for Remedy, but time not permitting, muſt beg the Readers excuſe, only this by the way, that if there was never ſuch effectual ways propounded, yet if thoſe wayes and means was never made uſe of, it is but beating the Aire. For the Life of the Law lies in the practick part; For if there was more care in this buſineſs when leſs Law, then hath been ſince more, are extant; the Fault then cannot be for want of Law, but only the want of Faithfulneſs in impartiality, in the Execution of thoſe Laws: And this in ſhort is the principal Cauſe of the continuance of this evil practice of Tranſportation of Wooll, and was very engenuouſly confeſt to me by ſome of the Tranſporters of Wooll within this

few

few Dayes in these very words, *viz. That if we had been prosecuted at first according to Law, we should not have acted the second time:* For if the Transportons did but rightly consider the danger they are in, they would desist; for I dare say, although some may escape for a time, you may be met withal first or last, and then are exposed to ruine.

SInce my former Papers went to the Press, several other Methods, and Wayes, of this Evil, of Transportion of Wool hath been Discovered, which I humbly conceive requisite to Insert.

That since his Majesty, by the right understanding of the Cause, hath given such strict Orders, to use all the means that may be, to prevent the said Mischief; the said Transporters have been put to their Shifts, there being much taken, they have changed their Stations: Yet if they should be met withal, such things as these are concluded on betwixt the said Transporters, near the Sea-side (there being many Planted along by the Sea in many Ports) and those that are far off. As for Instance, Last Summer there being a Parcel of Wool, about twenty Packs, sold to a *French* Comber of *Callice*, ten of which was brought from the place where it lay, about twelve Mile towards the Sea-side, and Lodged within two Miles of the Sea, there to lie until Wind did serve, and a Vessel ready to carry it; some Information being given to a Person near the place, that did wait for the motion of such things, went and Seised it: As soon as ever the Person that had Sold it to the *French* Merchant, had heard of the Seisure of it, he presently went to *Dover* to a *Notorious Transporter*, that he had at other times furnished with Wool, that he might own the Parcel that it might not be Lost, although there was little reason to think it for *Dover*, because its not usual for Wool to be carried ten Miles from the place it lies at, to a place two Miles farther off from *Dover* than at first, and a far worse way, and there to lie several dayes: It cannot be supposed that this was intended for *Dover*, but rather for Transportation, and do appear in Fact, *Affidavits* are produceable: yet this Wool was by some underhand Dealing, taken away out of the first Seisers hands, and carried back again to the place where at first it was Seised, which was 2 Miles farther off from *Dover*; and afterwards Seised by the Agent of that Person, that got it out of the first Seisers hands. This Cheat being discovered, it is now Condemned and brought

up to *London*, and ſold for the Kings uſe. This Paſſage being diſcourſed betwixt the Party that Sold the Wool, and the Party at *Dover* that was to Own it, and did Own it for the other; a third Perſon ſtanding by (and he a Tranſporter) told his Neighbour, not knowing whether the Wool would be Re-delivered (it being then in the Seiſors hands) and knowing of the Knack, told him, If the Wool ſhould be Loſt (he owning of it, before Witneſs he muſt ſtand to it) to which he Replied; *That then he would preſently get an Acquittance from that Perſon that was the true Owner, to ſave himſelf harmleſs:* This is the general way of Cheating.

And there was alſo the like in *Michaelmas Term*, 69. for nine Packs, that I ſaw where it was Seiſed, yet this Method carryed it for the Defendant (both alike) and ſince it appears, that neither of the Parcels of Wool was really Bought; becauſe when it was cleared from the Seiſer, it was carried quite contrary from the place the Perſons pretended it was for.

One Inſtance more I will give; That a parcel of Wool was carried by ſuch another perſon from *Maidſtone*, to a place near the Sea-ſide, nigh unto *Dungeoneſs*, and this perſon was willing to be a Merchant himſelf, and to go over with his Wool (though but a Carryer betwixt *Maidſtone* and *London*) but I ſuppoſe one uſed to *Smuckle* (as tis called) from the Sea-ſide to *London*, elſe could not know the wayes: But ſo it fell out, that the Shallop not being come, he Lodged his Wool on the *Beach*, expecting the Shallop might come before any perſon ſhould ſee it, being out of any Rode, and deep places in the ſaid *Beach*; but by chance it was found and Seiſed.

Again, A parcel of Wool (I think Combed) was carried from *Coventry* in *Warwick*-ſhire, to *Portſmouth*, being far diſtant each from other, pretending for *Jerſey*, but deſigned for *France*; and in Diſcourſe with a perſon (as he thought, like himſelf) confeſt the Buſineſs.

And farther, As to my former Diſcovery of the Methods, it doth moſt apparently appear in Fact; As from *Ireland*, I have diſcovered no leſs than Ten Thouſand Stone of Wool ſhipt in five Veſſels (in leſs than three months) from one Town

Town in *Ireland* (*Viz. Gallaway*,) and all Entred for *London* and *Plymouth*; and Bonds given, but the Bondſmen not Reſponſible, and the Ships moſt *Flemens*: three of which ſaid five Veſſels, Landed their Wool in *Flushing*, and one in *Amſterdam*, and the fifth in St. *Males* in *France*. To the truth of which I have *Affadavits*; and here is Witneſs come on purpoſe from *Ireland*, to make good the *Affadavits*.

Before I propound Remedies for the prevention of the aforeſaid Cheats, I think it convenient to lay before you an Abridgment of ſome Acts, by this preſent Parliament now in force.

An Abridgment of thoſe Acts in force, made by this preſent Parliament.

1. ENacted 12. *Car.* 2 No Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, after the 14*th.* of *January* 1660. Shall directly or indirectly, Export, Tranſport, or procure to be Exported, &c. out of, or from the Kingdoms of *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales*, *Barwick* upon *Twede*, *Jerſey*, *Guernſey*, *Sark*, and *Alderney*, being under the Government of *Guernſey*, or any of them, or to any Parts, or out of the ſaid, Kingdoms, or Dominions thereof, any Sheep, or Wool, whatſoever of the Breed or Growth of the Kingdoms, &c. Woolfels, Mortlings, or Shorlings, or any Yarn made of Wool, or any Woolflocks, Fullers-Earth, or Fulling-Clay whatſoever; or Pack, Load, or cauſe to be Packed, or Loaded upon any Horſe, or laid Aboard any Ship, or Veſſel, within the Kingdoms, Illes, or Dominion aforeſaid, to the *Intent* or Purpoſe to Export, or Convey, or to cauſe to be Exported, or Conveyed out of the Kingdoms, Illes, &c. Or with intent that any perſon ſhould carry the ſame into any parts or places out of the Kingdoms of *England*, *Ireland*, &c. into the Kingdom of *Scotland*, or Forraign parts.

2. No Wool, Woolfels, Mortlings, Shorlings, Yarn made

of Woolflocks, Fullers-Earth, or Fulling-Clay, after *January* 14. 1660. shall be Exported out of the Kingdoms of *England*, *Ireland*, *Wales*, *Berwick*, or any place of the said Kingdoms respectively; unto the *Isles* of *Jersey*, and *Alderney*, except as by the Act appointed.

3. All the Offenders aforesaid, shall be lyable to the Penalties and Forfeitures following, *Viz.* 1. The Sheep, Wools, Mortlings, Yarn, Fullers-Earth, and Clay so Exported, Conveyed, Packed or Loaden contrary to the Act, shall be Forfeited. 2. The Offender shall Forfeit twenty Shillings for every Sheep, and three Shillings, for every pound of Wool, Fullers-Earth, or Fulling-Clay so Exported, *&c.* 3. The Owner of the Ships, or Vessels, knowing such Offence, shall Forfeit their Interest in the Ships, *&c.* with their Apparel, and Furniture. 4. The Masters and Marriners, knowing thereof, or assisting thereunto, shall Forfeit all their Goods, and Chatels, and have Imprisonment for three Months without Bail, *&c.* One Moity of the Forfeitures, or Penalties to the King, the other to the Informer; who will Sue for the same in the Kings Court of Record, or before Justices of Assize, or the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace.

4. If any Merchant or other Person, after the said 14th. of *January*, shall Transport, or cause to be Transported any Sheep, Wool, Woolfels, Wollen-Yarn, Fullers-Earth, *&c.* contrary to the Act, and be thereof Convicted, he shall be disabled to require any Accompt of any Factor, or others, for, or concerning any Debt, or Estate, properly belonging to the Offender.

5. Every Offence done contrary to the Act, shall be enquired of in the Countrey where such Sheep, Wool, *&c.* shall be Packed, *&c.* Or else in the Countrey where the Parties shall be Apprehended, as if the Offence had been wholly and altogether done at and in such County; and no Person shall be Impeached for any Offence aforesaid, unless he be Prosecuted within one Year next after the Offence committed.

6. Any Person, *&c.* may lawfully Seise, Take, or Challenge to his own use, or to the use of the King, his Heirs, *&c.*

&c. all manner of such Sheep, Wool, Woolfels, Yarns, &c. as he shall so find, know, or discover to be laid on Board any Ship, Vessel, &c. Or layed on Shoar, at, or near Shoar of any Navigable River, to the intent to be Transported out of the Kingdoms of *England*, *Ireland*, or Dominions thereof; or to be packed upon any Horse, or other Carriage, to the intent to be Conveyed into the Kingdom of *Scotland*; and such Person, &c. as shall Seise, &c. the same, shall have the full Moiety thereof, provided such Person as shall make such Seisure, shall not be allowed to give in Evidence upon his Oath, against any person which shall be Indicted or Questioned, by Vertue of this Act.

7. Every Ship, Vessel, Boat, &c. Whereof any Alien-born, or whereof any Natural-born Subjects not Inhabiting within *England*, shall be Owner or Part-owner, and wherein any Sheep, Wool, Yarn made of Wool, &c. shall happen to be Shipped, or Layed on Board, shall be Forfeited to the King, &c.

8. Provided, This Act not extend to any Lamb-skin ready Dreſt, fit and useful for Fur or Linings; nor to the Carrying or Conveying away any Woolfels, or Pelts with such Wool upon them; or to any Beds stuffed with Flocks, which shall be carried into any Ship, or Vessel, for necessary use, onely in or concerning the Ship, &c. Or for the necessary use of the persons passing in such Ships, &c. And which shall not be Sold in any Forraign parts; or to the Conveying any Weather-sheep, or the Wool growing upon them to be carried alive in any Ship, &c. for the onely necessary Food or Diet, of, or for the Company or Passengers, or other persons therein.

9. Not to Extend to any such Wool to be Exported out of, or from the Port of *Southampton*, onely to the *Isles*, of *Jersey*, or *Guernsey*, by, or for the use of any the Inhabitants there; so as such person that shall Ship, or lay Aboard such Vessel, do, before the Shipping thereof, deliver to the Customer, Surveyor, or Searcher of the said Ports, a Writing under the Seals of the respective Governours of the said *Isles*, to which the Wool is to be Transported, or their Deputies; which Writing shall express the party Named therein, as authorised

to Export out of the Port aforesaid so much Wool, expressing the number of the Tods to be Used, or Manufactured in the said *Isles*; and that the parties so Authorised, shall before the making of such Writing, entred Bond to the King, for the Landing of the said Wool in that *Isle*; and the Wool Exported out of the said Port of *Southampton*, shall not exceed this quantity, *viz.* To *Jersey*, 2000 Tods uncombed: *Guernsey*, 1000 Tods: *Alderney*, 200 Tods: *Sark*, 100 Tods and no more; every Tod not exceeding 32 pound.

8. That the Governour of the respective *Isles* of *Jersey*, and *Guernsey*, or his Deputy, for whom he will answer; shall not make any Writing, or Writings, to any Person or Persons to Appoint or Authorise such person or persons, to Fetch or Export out of the said Port of *Southampton*, unto the respective *Isles* in one Year, accounting the Year from *January* 14. 1660. aforesaid; any greater quantity of Wool unto the said respective *Isles*, and places, than is by the true meaning of the Act Limited, and Appointed; upon pain the Respective Governour, or Governours, of such *Isles*, shall Forfeit and Pay to the King, Twenty pound, for every Tod of Wool which shall be so Licensed to be Exported, over and above the Rate and Proportion by the Act Limited, and appointed.

9. That the Costomer of the Port of *Southampton*, shall keep a true Accompt of the Quantity of Wools so by him permitted to be Loaden; and shall not permit any greater Quantity of Wools, than in the Act is prescribed to be Loaden, in many one Year to either of the said *Islands*, under any pretence whatsoever; upon penalty of Forfeiting his place, and the Sum of 100 pound, one Moiety to the King, the other Moiety to him who will Sue for the same in any Court of Record wherein no Essoim, &c. shall be Allowed.

10. That the Respective Governours, or their Deputies, or any of their Clarks, Officers, or Servants, for the Making, Granting, or Sealing of every such Writing of License; and for the Entering of a Remembrance of the same, into some Book which they shall keep for that purpose; shall take twelve pence, and no more, upon pain of Forfeiture to the party

grieved

grieved, five Shillings for every penny shall be taken above the said twelve pence; the penalty to be Recovered by Bill, or Information in any Court of Record at *Westminster*, wherein no Injunction, Essoim, &c. shall be Allowed.

First, Another Act Enacted 14. *Car.* 2d. *Ch.* 18. If any Person or Persons, from and after the first of *August*, 62. shall directly, or indirectly Export, &c. from the Kingdoms of *England*, and *Ireland*, &c. into any parts out of the said Kingdoms, any Sheep, &c. To the intent to Export, or cause to be Exported into any Forraign parts; every such Offence shall be adjudged Felony, and the Offender being Convicted, shall Forfeit and suffer as in case of Felony.

2. Every Owner of any such Ship, or Vessel, and every Owner of every Horse, Cart, or Carriages upon which any Sheep, Wool, Woolfels, Yarn made of Wool, Woolstocks, Fullers-Earth, or Fulling-Clay, so to be Exported, Transported, &c. to any such intent as aforesaid; knowing hereof, and hereof being wilfully and willingly Aiding, Assisting, or Consenting thereunto; and the Master of such Ship, or Vessel, wherein any such *Sheep*, Wool, &c. shall be so Exported, or Transported, or Loaden, or laid on Board as aforesaid, to any such purpose as aforesaid; and Aiding, Assisting, or Consenting thereunto: And every Factor, and *Servant* whatsoever, Customer, Controler, Waiter, *Searcher*, or other Officer, or Person whatsoever, knowing hereof, and willingly Assisting, or Consenting thereunto, shall be Adjudged and taken to be a Felon; and every Offender therein duly Convicted, shall *Suffer* or Forfeit, as in case of Felony.

3. Every Offence done, or Committed contrary to this Act, shall be Enquired of, Heard, Tried, and Condemned, in the County where such *Sheep*, Wool, Woolfels, &c. respectively, shall be *Packed*, Laden, or laid on Board, as aforesaid; or else in the County where such Offenders shall happen to be Apprehended or Arrested for such Offence, or in such manner, or to such effect, to all intents and purposes, as if the said Offence had been wholly done, and committed in the same County.

4. From and after the 1st. of *August*, 1662. No person, &c. shall

shall press together with any Screws, Presses, or other Engine, into any Sack, Pack, Bag, or shall Steam any woollen cloth, Yarn made of Wool, into any Butt, Pipe, Hogshead, or other Cask, or Vessel, upon any pretence; or shall carry, or lay at, or near the Shoar, Coasts of the Sea, or Navigable River, or any place near adjoyning thereunto; any such Wool, Woolflocks, or Yarn made of Wool, to Export, Transport, or carry away the same out of the Kingdom of *England*, or *Ireland*, into *Scotland*, or any other Forraign parts, upon penalty of Loss of all such Wool, Woolflocks, Yarn made of Wool, so Packed, Pressed, Layed into any Cask, or Carried on Land near the Sea-shoar, or the value thereof.

5. No Tobacco-Pipe-Clay, shall after the 1st. of *August*, 1662. be Exported, Transported, or Conveyed out of the Kingdom of *England*, &c. Or after the 1st. of *January*, 1662. out of, or from *Ireland*, or *Wales*, into the Kingdom of *Scotland*, or into any Forraign parts, under the penalty of three shillings for every pound of Tobacco-Pipe-Clay, Exported or Transported.

6. After the 1st. of *August*, 1662. No Packs, Sacks, Bags, or Casks of Wool, Woolfels, Mortlings, Shorlings, Yarn made of Wool, Fullers-Earth, Fulling Clay, Tobacco-Pipe-Clay, shall be Laden on any Horse, Cart, or Carriage; or shall be Conveyed by Land from any of the places within the Kingdom of *England*. Nor after the 1st. of *January*, 1662. in *Ireland*, but in the Day time; and from and after the 1st. of *March*, to the 29th. of *September* Yearly, between the hours of four of the Clock in the Morning, and eight of the Clock in the Evening; upon pain of Forfeiture of all such Goods, or the Value thereof. One Moiety to the King, his Heirs, &c. the other to him or them, that will Sue for the same, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, &c.

7. Provided this Act not to be Construed, to Repeal and make Void any the Penalties in an Act of this Parliament made against Transportation of Wool, Woolfels, Fullers-Earth; or to the Prohibiting of the Lading on Board of any Ship, &c. of any Weather-sheep, Wool, or other Goods

that

that by the ſaid Act is permitted to be Laden on Board any Ship, &c. for the neceſſary uſe of ſuch Ships, &c.

2. If any Owner, Maſter, or Mariner of any Ship, &c. knowing of ſuch Tranſportation of ſuch Sheep, Wool, Woolfels, (or any of the Goods mentioned) ſhall within three Months next, after the Knowledg thereof, or after he return into the Kingdom of *England*, *Ireland*, or *Wales*, &c. give the firſt Information, *Bona fide*, before the Barons of either of the Courts of Exchequer in *England*, or *Ireland*; or before the Head Officer of any port, where he ſhall firſt arrive, of the number and quantity of the Goods ſo Carried or Tranſported; and by whom, where, and in what Ship, &c. And ſhall be ready to juſtifie and prove the ſame: Such Owner, Maſter, or Mariner, ſhall not be puniſhed for Felony, but yet be ſubject to all other Penalties contained in the Act, for the offence aforeſaid. And all ſuch Exportations, and Conveying of any Goods, or Commodities, in the Act mentioned, is declared to be a common and publick Nuſance.

Remedies is humbly offered as a farther Adition to the former Act.

1. TO Revive ſome former Acts of Parliament, as in the 4th. of *Hen.* 7th. As alſo 23. and 27. *Hen.* 8. 5. *Edw.* 6th. For this very Reaſon to Regulate the Buyers of Wool, eſpecially by the Sea-ſide, where there can be no pretence of a Conveniency for any thing, but only for Forreigners. For inſtance: I do know a perſon ſcarce worth any thing (at leaſt ſo reputed) living near the Sea-ſide, that I believe, hath bought ſome hundreds Packs of Wool for *French* Merchants, as formerly hinted; and ſometimes goes over himſelf to *France*: And this perſon I found to be Compounded with two or three times by the Officers aforeſaid, for four or five pound a time; which way is now prevented by the Lord Chief Baron *Hales*, and a Rule is given in Court and entred

2. For all persons in *England* to be accountable to whom they Sell their Wool, and so to follow it until it shall be known to be in such hands, as shall of the said Wool convert to a Manufacture, here in *England*; because both Combed and Raw Wool is now Seised, some in *London*, 5 or 6 hundred, and entred as a Bale of *Spanish* Cloathes, and it lies now in the Custome House in *London*. So that it is impossible to prevent it without persons be Accountable, though not all, nor the twentieth part of Wool Growers may be lookt after, nor troubled, but where it is needful for some particular persons (that are suspected) And for such persons so near to the *Sea*-side, to make an Entry of their Wool, and to take Bond as it is in the Ports when entred *per Cockquet*, from Port to Port; there being as much danger from those places (and too much experienced) as is in the Port Towns; and therefore the same Reason to be given, and no reason for any person that means honestly, to be offended.

3. That there may be *Store*-houses in those Countries near the *Sea*-side, and where is no Manufacture in some convenient places as formerly there was, for Transportation of Wool by *Staple* Towns, for the conveniency of some poor men, that cannot stay for their Money.

4. For *Ireland*, that there be convenient Ports out of which it shall be Exported from thence.

From *Ireland*, *Draughdah*, *Dublin*, *Waterford*, *Toughal*, *Cork*, for the danger lieth in the *Northwest* ports; for I am humbly of opinion, that there is very little Wool that is Landed in *England*, shipt from those places: As for Instance, *Gallaway*, whereas five *Ships* discovered pretending to be for *England*, and none came here, as at large before appeareth: And considering the Length and Hazard from those Ports (especially *Lymbrick*, and *Gallaway*, &c.) Which increase the *Fraight* almost equally to the Land Carriage to the *Eastern* ports next Adjacent; it is equal to the Merchants that means honestly. And it is supposed that the *Staples* in *Ireland* as above, is yet in force, only want reviving: And also it doth appear in fact, that a person that doth Export Wool only from

Ire-

Ireland to *England*, brings it by Land from *Gallaway* to *Dublin*, there to be Shipt.

That no Certificate be vallid, the discharge of Bonds given, unless the Mayor, or Civil Officer of the Port certifie with the Officer of the Customes, that the Wool is actually Landed and Weighed.

5. That there may be a shorter and quick way for Trials, and in such places as the Offender may have least opportunity for Evasions, and not so as the Judge may be Counsel for such Malefactors, as I have observed; and this is the cause that many have forborn to bring persons upon the Stage for Trials: and it has been my own case, that I have observed in the Sinst-ports, where the greatest mischief is done.

6. To have those Statutes made known by publick Reading in every Parish Church, as also by the Sheriff in proper person, four times a Year in every Hundred, and by his Bayliffs in every Market; and Proclamation at every Quarter Sessions, by all Mayors, Sheriffs, Bayliffs, and other Officers, as formerly it was for publick Statutes in several Kings Reigns.

Touching the Manufacturing of Wool.

IN General, all States and Common-wealths, are ſupported by two Providential works (*viz.*) Reward and Puniſhment; for as no Law can compel men to be Corporally Laborious, or ſtudious in Knowledg and Literature, unleſs Rewards be annexed to all ſuch Compulſion; ſo no Providence can attend the preſervation of profitable Deſigns, either in Learning or Trade, unleſs ſuch puniſhments be enjoyned: And this is the weak and frail eſtate of Men and Nations, that unleſs they be as well encouraged in their endeavours, as puniſhed in their miſdemeanors, they will ſpeedily become Libertines, and ruine all as is too too much feared in this caſe in *England* at this day; and as before about the Wool, ſo the working for the greateſt part hath been confined to *England*, this three hundred Years, and until theſe late Years has been ſo preſerved, by the diligence of ſuch Officers as have been ordained and impowered, carefully to ſee the Manufactures kept under thoſe rules which the Laws have provided for their perfection; and ſeeing this Nation is by God peculiariſed in theſe two bleſſings (*viz.*) Wools, and Manufactors; and through the Vigilancy of its Monarchs ſafe guarded by Laws, that the native Manufactures might not be undermined by the practices of Forreigners; their antient providence exacts from the preſent Age, the ſame preſervation (as before in the Wool) that the *Dutch* do not undermine us out of all. Again, we may be taught by their diligence, who though they have few or no native Commodities, yet are rich and thriving; who ſpare no attendance in over-

overſeeing and ſearching the true making of their Manufactures as above; for their exactneſs, giving therefore power and Commiſſions to perſons of more than ordinary worth amongſt them (whom they call Cure or Care-Maſters) to ſee every thing according to the Law; and where ever they find a defect, they make a default upon the Cloath, which firſt is recompenſed by a Fine to the State for abuſing the Laws, and afterward remains to admoniſh the Buyer, who thereby may guard his Purſe. And in caſe the Clothier be abuſed by any of his Work-folks, he Checks his Damage upon the true offender in his Wages. Now in *England* there is ſo much the contrary, that many perſons take liberty for want of a regular or Legal courſe followed, either for time or form in working; there is few of the Relations to Cloathing, which doth obſerve ſuch an exact rule of Apprentiſhip (which is not the leaſt cauſe that the Manufactures of Wool are ſo abuſively and deceptiouſly made in *England*) notwithſtanding it is enjoyned in very ſtrict and penal manner by the Statute Laws of the old Draperies; the chief inconveniences of which, is, that the Trade ſo general in Uſe, and maintenance of even numberleſs Families, doth by its own vaſt exorbancie convert into Corruptions; and ſo thoſe great multitudes of people become diſcredited, beggered, and finally ruined, to the deſtruction of themſelves and the Nation, which gave them ſo great a Bleſſing.

Another prejudice, and not the leaſt, is, that the Nation which hath given them Being, and Inveſted them with ſuch Materials for Cloathing, is diſhonoured by falſe and abuſive works: And it is not a little ſcandal to that Nation which God hath particularly endowed with thoſe bleſſings which others want, when its people ſhall divert thoſe good things which God hath beſtowed upon it to evil and deceptious practices. In this conſideration it is obſervable (by ſome) how little comparitively is the Drunkenneſs of thoſe Countries which produce Wines, and wherein lies their perſonal Riches, and their Nations Honour, though their other ſins may ſufficiently ſwell their ultimate Account; yet doubtleſs it ſtrengthens

their

their laſt Apologie, in that they abuſe not that endowment which God hath made the original of their Being and Subſiſtance.

Another conſideration is, the Cheat it puts upon all the world, for though every Country hath not the benefit of the Manufacture in themſelves, yet are there few of them condemned to ſuch ignorance as not to diſcern the Cozenage which falſe Cloathing puts upon them.

And further, great may be the thought of heart, when the ſins of falſe Lucre and Covetouſneſs (which is Idolatry) are in full purſuance of ſuch as have the full Plenty to make weight and meaſure, yet make it the Art of their practiſes as well as the practiſe of their Art, to Cozen both the Wiſe and Weak: It can be no great wonder, nor without abundance of preſidents, if God for ſins of ſuch wilfulneſs remove his bleſſings (with which this Nation is peculiarly enriched and dignified) and give them to a people which will render Him a better, more juſt, and more profitable account of his Talent; and its no news, that though England *be by the Almighty, chiefly ordained to produce the Materials; yet the Manufactures be given to a people, which will render him a better Account; all this and much more is expected, if the Native people continue to abuſe the Native Commodity, (as of neceſſity they muſt, when they know not how to uſe it.) The Wiſdom of our Anceſtors hath been liberally manifeſted in this particular.* Firſt, *That the Manufactors be conſtantly made Apprentices for ſeven years at leaſt, the contrary is one great reaſon, that by ignorance ſo many abuſes are, that are unremidable. Another reaſon, why apprentices are generally confined to ſeven years Servitude, is to the end, that Profeſſors (in each Art) multiply not beyond the ſupport of their Trade, which were not to increaſe good Subjects, but Vagabonds, which doubtleſs was not the intention of King* Edward *the* 3d. *(ever to be remembred by an* Engliſh-man, *when in his deſign in bringing* Cloathing *to* England, *a chief part was to multiply his people, as by his Native and Alleageant Subjects (ſuch as by and by you will underſtand) he might ſecurely poſſeſs the Conqueſts wherewith God here bleſſed him, which were beyond any Chriſtian Prince's in his time. It is utterly againſt reaſon*

that

that a Nation can be poor, whose people are numerous, if their Industry be compelled and incouraged, and their Idleneſs be puniſhed and reformed. It is the opinion of ſome, that its not the barrenneſs of a Country which can forbid this Maxim. Now a great increaſe (at leaſt) of good people (as afore hinted in King *Edward*) reſts upon the regulation of Trade; for its not the number of Workmen, but number of good Workmen which increaſeth Families, and its Families which increaſeth and ſpreadeth good people; the other for want of Knowledg and Skill, being fixed no where, becauſe their Labours will not maintain themſelves, much leſs Families: *For who will uſe a Workman, who hath neither Skill nor Credit, when he can imploy one that hath both?*

Of principal Importance therefore is the Regulation of Apprentiſhips, both to the beſt increaſe of people, and to the Honeſt, Creditable, and Wealthy Manufactures of Wool, for want of which not only the former denoted faults are daily found in their works, but good workmen are underſold and ruined (*as formerly hinted*) by bad, and the whole Nation involved in great diſhonour.

Nor is this all the Abuſe; for in ſuch parts of the World as the Buyers are not in ability of knowledg, like the *Dutch*, who make Cloaths themſelves, and eſpecially thoſe parts where the difference in Religion is ſo great, as it is between Chriſtians and Turks; there the corrupt Merchant cauſeth the Name of God to be Blaſphemed. For when thoſe people (whoſe Eye and Judgment gives them not ſo good information as doth their proof and wearing) do find themſelves cheated in their Garments, they preſently conclude that there is no fear of God in that place, nor obedience to their Rulers; which muſt ſtauredly procure much ſcandal to Chriſtian Religion.

It hath been noted, that the Original of Money, was from Sheep, affirming that the Antient Signature upon Money, was a Sheep; and its further obſerved, that Merchandiſes were the cauſe of Money; and there being no greater Merchandiſe then are from the Sheep, it is evident, that there is nothing

more:

more requisite towards the enriching this Nation (whose peculiar blessing rests in Sheep) then strictly to hold the Manufactures to the Letter and Rule provided for their just making; and that the Laws be unpartially executed; and it being apparent that this Nation cannot be Rich without a constant uttering of Cloathing, nor can that be done without a perfect reformation in the particulars of the works.

It doth undeniably follow, that Cloathing must be purged from its Corruption, or *England* must be poor. It is therefore the Manufactors which abuse the Wool, and thereby improvidently give advantage to the *Dutch*: whereas a perfection in the making of Cloaths in *England*, will capacitate the *English* to undersel the *Dutch*.

1. And whereas it is objected, that there is no need for persons to serve as an Apprentice to such an Imployment, that can be Learned in three Months.

2. That it will be a hindrance to the encrease of Trade, and so consequently narrow it.

Answ. 1. As to the first, there is no sort of Woollen-Manufactury, that can be so Learned in such a short time, but a person may still be to Learn if he live four times seven Years; it must be Experience in all Trades, or Callings (as well as the Notional part) that must make a person Master of his Trade. Again, *If* there were such strict care taken for Youth to be Apprentice to every petty Imployment, and Husbandry it self, its much more reason for an Apprentice in such a Manufactury, as it's the Foundation of the Riches and Splendor of this Kingdom.

Answ. 2. As to the hinderance of Trade, *I* have this to say, and it is Obvious to the whole world: Where ever Rules are given, and duly observed, there Trade doth encrease; witness, *Norwich*, and *Colchester*, that hath the Reputation, and doth wonderfully increase; and the quite contrary when ever its wilde, and without Rule, and Order, it doth much decay. Which if my time would permit to give a particular account of my own Knowledg, and Experience, in this thing, I do presume it might be more satisfactory to the Reader, but must humbly beg his Excuse at present.

A Supplement.

I Thought not to have Written any thing more at preſent but ſeeing ſuch a neceſſity provokes me thereto; (and being already upon the Stage, and a Spectacle to many; and though I muſt Write *Folly* as to all my Actions, with Reſpect unto my Self; yet in it, I ſhall reſt content, whilſt others Reap the Advantage;) and principally a neceſſity for ſome, that otherwiſe would periſh, and that not a few, but many Thouſands in this Kingdom, as appears at large in this ſmall (foregoing) Tract. And notwithſtanding the Diſ-couragements I have met withal, I have and am reſolved to perſiſt (and the more neceſſity there is of a double diligence) I may alude to that ſaying, *Pſ.*119.*v.*126. That the more general Digreſſion from, or rather Tranſgreſſion of the Laws of God, ſo much more need was there then for the *Pſalmiſt* to love it above Gold, becauſe the neceſſary Conſequence is by the ſaid Breach, to bring National Judgments upon a People, or Kingdom, which muſt unavoidably follow, were there not ſome to ſtand in the Gap; witneſs of which are plentiful, both Moral, and Divine. To return to our purpoſe, the Breach of the Laws of this Kingdom, in this particular we are upon, if not Puniſhed according to the Demerit of the cauſe, as hitherto it hath not, a little time will make it Irrecoverable: Therefore pray bear with me, if I am more than ordinarily Solicitous in this Buſineſs, as ſeeing before-hand whether we are going, by what hath paſt; which we ſay cannot be helpt; but this in time may be, if we will not be wanting to our ſelves, and ſay a Lyon is in the way, when no ſuch thing, and ſo Greate difficulties.

My Obſervation upon theſe Two things, is, 1*ſt*. The Undreſt and Undied Cloath. 2*d*. The Fiſhing Trade, as Sir *Walter Rawley* notes.

1. From the great loſs to *England* paſt recovery, ſo many Millions in the Tranſportation of our Engliſh Cloath to *Holland*,

Undreſt, and Undied, which without doubt at firſt, was by little and little Connived at (as our Wool is) till at length came to be Maſters of that, and would not have our other Wollen Manufacturies without it, as experience with thoſe Merchants may witneſs; ſo in time, both the *Dutch*, and eſpecially the *French*, will refuſe our Manufacturies without we will allow them ſo much Wool with it; and ſo by little and little ſhall we be Beat out of our Trade, and our Wools carried from us, and our Merchants tranſport themſelves after, as it was at firſt before King *Edward* the Third, and leave a poor Populous Kingdom ready to Eat up one another, and ſo fall to Robbing and Stealing, which hath been formerly complained of.

2. The ſecond as about the Fiſhing: In my Travels, I have obſerved many Sea-coaſt Towns much decaied, unleſs ſome few little Pariſhes, and great *Yarmouth*; nay, many antient Towns utterly conſumed, hardly one ſtone left upon another, which is Reported, and may by Hiſtory be found true, that was Populous and Strong, which to an Iſland is not only an Ornament, but of abſolute Neceſſity: Witneſs our late Wars with the *Dutch*, and *French*, and doubtleſs was Upheld and Enriched by Fiſhing, as Sir *Walter Rawley* accounts to be gained in his time by the *Dutch*, about One Million, Three Hundred Seventy Two Thouſand Pound, beſides what was carried to *Spain*, and *France* (except *Roan*) and into the *Streights*, beſides what they conſumed amongſt themſelves; which doubtleſs was and is now very conſiderable. Yet, were all thoſe Fiſh caught upon our Coaſts, and no queſtion if things had been well managed to encourage hands (in *England*) we might much better, and cheaper have maintained them, and Caught and Cured them, having many more and much better convenient Ports than they; but we are ſlack and careleſs, as it was in King *Henry* the ſevenths time; he deſirous to make his Kingdom Powerful and Rich by encreaſe of Ships and Mariners, and Employment of his People, ſent unto his Sea-coaſt Towns, moving them to ſet up the great and rich Fiſhing, with promiſe to give them needful Priviledges, and furniſh them with Loans of Money if need were, to encourage them; yet his people were ſlack. Notwithſtanding many Noble-men, and Merchants, and others (who had ſet

down

down under their hands for more assurance) promised to disburst large Sums of Money for the perfecting the said Kings motion, which would have encreased such strength to this Kingdom, and given such comfort, and do such good to all Cities and Towns, having fit and needful Priviledges for the upholding and strengthening of so weighty and needful a business.

Observations upon the Dutch *Policies, that having nothing Comparatively to* England, *yet to Exceed us in many things.*

CONsidering the Multitude, Excellency, and Conveniency of our Ports in *England*, and the abundance of our Native Commodities, which may any wayes conduce to the supplying the necessities, or adorning the conveniency of Humane Life, the Inhabitants Stout and Valiant, accompanied with a lively Wit, and healthful Constitution; one would think it strange (I might say Monstruous) that the *Dutch* Nation who are denied those Advantages, and are of a more dull and heavy Constitution than the *English*, should out-wit us in that God (and Nature) hath given us all the Prerogative we our selves can desire.

The true Ground-course and form doth appear how other Countries (*viz.*) *Holland* make themselves Rich and Powerful in all kind of Merchandises, and Manufacturies, in and by fulness of Trade, having no Commodities (comparatively) in their own Countrey growing to do it withal; and that their never dried Fountains of Wealth, by which they raise their Estate to such an Admirable height, as that they are at this day even a wonder to the World, proceedeth from his Majesties Sea and Land; and by the depth of their Policies (and exercising themselves constantly in it) and the Circumventing practises, they draw and still covet to Exhaust the Wealth and Coyn of this Kingdom, and so with our own Commodities to weaken us, and finally beat us out of Trade in other Countries.

They more fully obtained these their purposes, by their convenient Priviledges, and settled Constitutions, than *England* with all the Law (which if Practised would be otherwise) and superabundance of Home-bred Commodities, which God hath vouchsafed this Kingdom by Sea and Land.

By which Priviledges they draw multitudes of Merchants to Trade with them, and many other Nations to Inhabit amongst them, which makes them Populous; and thereby they make Store-houses of all forreign Commodities, wherewith upon every occasion of Scarcety and Dearth, they are able to furnish forreign Countries with plenty of those Commodities, which before in time of Plenty, they engrossed and brought Home from the same places; which doth greatly Augment Power and Treasure to their State, besides the Common good in setting poor people on work: Which maketh them Flourish, and their Countrey so plentiful of all kind of Coyn and Commodities, where little or nothing Groweth; and their Merchants so Flourish, that when a Loss cometh, they scarce feel it: To bring this to pass, they have many Advantages of us, that We might have if we would give up our selves unto it, which many have Writ of at Large.

Sir Walter Rawleigh *Notes, that the smalness of the Customs, inward and outward, was a great incouragement, and yet by the greatness of Commerce by it, the Customes comes to as much in one year, to the States of* Holland, *then in two years in* England, *which maketh all the Countrey-Merchants to buy and sell, and increase Ships and Marriners to Transport much again: And he farther Notes, the Merchandizes of* France, Portugal, Spaine, Italy, Turky, East *and* West-Indies, *are Transported most by the* Hollanders, *and other petty States, into the* East *and* North-West *Kingdoms of* Pomerland, Sprucland, *&c.*

And the Merchandize brought from the last mentioned Kingdoms, being wonderful many, are by them Transported into the Southern *and* Western *Dominions; and yet the Scituation of* England *lyeth far better for Store-houses to serve the aforesaid Countreys and Regions, than theirs doth, and hath far better means to do it, if we would bend our course for it.*

It hath been observed, that when a Dearth of Fish, Wine, or

Corn,

Corn, and other Merchandiſes here, that forthwith the Emdeners, *and* Hamburgers, *and* Holland, *out of their Store-houſes, Lade fifty or an hundred Ships, or more, diſperſing themſelves round about this Kingdom, and carry away great ſtore of Coyn, and Wealth, for little Commodities in thoſe times of Dearth; by which means they ſuck out our Riches, cut down our Merchants, and decay our Navigation: And particularly, he farther Notes, That from the ſaid three places above, out of their Store-houſes, furniſhed this Kingdom with Corn, and from* Southampton, Exeter, *and* Briſtol, *in a Tear and a Halfs time, carried away near two hundred Thouſand Pounds, beſides from* London *and other parts, could not be leſs than Two Millions, to the great decay of this Kingdom, and diſcredit to the Company of Merchants; that any Nation that have no Corn in their own Country growing, ſhould ſerve this famous Kingdom, by all which they draw the Wealth and Strength of Chriſtendom to themſelves: Whereby alſo it appeareth, though the Duty be but ſmall, yet the Cuſtoms for going out and coming in, do ſo abound as before, that they Increaſe their Revenews greatly, and make Profit, plenty, and Employment of all ſorts by Sea and Land, to ſerve themſelves and other Nations, as is admirable to behold. And likewiſe, the great Commerce which Groweth by the ſame means, enableth the Common-people to bear their burden laid upon them, and yet they grow Rich by reaſon of the great Commerce and Trade, occaſioned by their convenient Priviledges, and commodious conſtitutions.*

Theſe things being in time conſidered, and neceſſary to be remembred; and that the ſtream may be turned to the good of this Kingdom, to whom God hath given thoſe great bleſſings, and multitude of Riches, or at leaſt means for it (however it hath been neglected to the hurt of this Kingdom) Let us all as *Engliſh-men*, as the good *Spyes* did in ſaying, *That we are able to keep Our Trade*; and not ſay with the Evil *Spyes*, *We ſhall never be able*, and ſo weaken one anothers hands, and give up Our Trade into the hands of thoſe that thirſt for it, and that can live without it; and we, if loſt, cannot poſſibly live one by another; and although now through Idleneſs we are Poor in many places, for want of Employment; and though many Land, and Sea-Coaſt Townes much Ruined; yet, notwithſtanding there

there is hope; first, considering the Encouragement his Majesty hath given to promote Trade, in giving free access to any proposals, and forwarding of those that are Good, though all cannot as yet be accomplished; and let us remember that it is more easie to keep Our Trade, then it was to get it, as in *K. E.3d. That we follow on, and do every one his duty in his place, to enrich our selves, and encrease the Navigation, Shipping, and Marriners, so as it would make all Nations to vaile the Bonnet to* England, if we would not be still wanting to our selves, in employing of our people, and to allure them all for their own private Gain; to be all Workers and Errectors of so rich a Manufacture, to vent our home-bred Commodities to far more Reputation, and much more Profit to the King, the Merchant, and the Kingdom, to return the Merchandizes of other Countreys at far cheaper Rates than now they are, to the great benefit of the Kingdom in General, in making it powerful by increasing of Ships and Marriners, and to make the peoples takeings in General, to be much more every day, then now they are, which by Gods help, will grow continually more and more, by the great Concourse and Commerce that will come by settled constitutions, and convenient Priviledges, as in other Parts they do by their great freedom of Trade.

All this, and much more is done in other Countreys, where nothing groweth; so that of nothing, they make great things; Then how much more mighty things might we make, where are so great abundance and Variety of home-bred Commodities, and Rich Materials grows for a people to work upon, and other plentiful means to do that withal, which other Nations neither have, nor cannot want, but of necessity must be furnished from hence? And now, whereas our Merchandizing, and Manufactury is wilde, utterly confused, and out of frame, it would be all put in frame, and fill our Havens with Ships, those Ships with Marriners, the Kingdom full of Merchants, their houses full of Out-landish Commodities, and his Majesties Revenues wonderfully encrease, *&c.*

IT is not only a common saying, but an experimental truth, that, *Interest will not Lye*; I have therefore (although confused) endeavoured to discover, how all Persons in *England* (*viz.*) the Body of this Kingdom are concerned in these Lines, and although as clear as any thing visible, yet such a stupified frame, hath possessed so many Persons in *England*, (ten times more concerned than my self) that instead of having any Help or Assistance from them, gives me all the discouragement imaginable. If this of Self-Interest were rightly weighed together, with what is our duty to be helpful to our Neighbours, and no wayes prejudicial to our selves, how happy might *England* be: But alass! How contrary, how few are the Persons that are Cordial in promoting of anothers good, when no wayes prejudicial to himself. Nay, I am too much experienced in this Knowledg, that many persons hinders themselves (consequently) of much Gains, when another may be Advantaged with it, and will be better pleased with the Tythe of that profit, if he can have it alone; how far short of some Brutes, that are more Unaminous for each others Advantage? how far short we are of those we account as base, (*viz.*) The *Turks, Jews, &c.*? It was a complaint for many Hundred Years ago, by a great Doctor, that most sought themselves, with the neglect of others; when it was, and is, a Duty incumbent upon all, not only to minde our selves, but also the good of others. I have read of a great Ambassador that had been long in *England*, when leaving it, and being under Sail towards his own Countrey, lookt back and spake of the Excellency of this Island in its Clymate and Situation, but the great defect was, the want of Publick Spirits. Should I write only my Observation on this Subject, I might Write a large Volumn; not only of the want of such a Spirit, but that which is worse, (*viz.*) the Oppositions, Reflections, Derisions, and the like. I shall only alude to that saying, *He that departs from such evils, and so consequently endeavour to follow the contrary, he becomes a Prey.* But the main and principal Inducement as to my present work at first, and still is, I do not think it seasonable for several reasons to Insert at present; hoping when I am off the Stage, it may be more proper; for Vain man would be

Wise.

Wiſe, (*viz.*) eſteemed ſo. I will only Inſert what two Authors gives me an account of. Two Perſons ſomewhat contrary in their Opinions, ſpeaking about Merchants to be a principal Renown to themſelves, and their Countrey, with what great hazards both of Perſon, and Eſtate, they do ſo Faithfully and rofitably ſerve.

The firſt Author ſaith thus; *We have a Record which doth worthily recite the ingenious expreſſions of a young* Florentine *Gentleman, called* Coſſimo Ruchelli, *who dyed about the age of* 22 *years, who bewailed not his departure from his Kindred and Friends, nor from the Riches of his Family, or pleaſures of the World; but becauſe he was ſummoned by Death before he had done his Country that Tributary ſervice, which to it was due for his being, or had gratified his Friends by reciprocal benefits, for that they had beſtowed upon him nouriſhment and Education.*

The ſecond Author gives us a contrary opinion, of one *Theodoſius, who thought, and taught it to be great injuſtice that a wiſe man ſhould in any caſe hazard himſelf for the good or benefit of his Country, which he ſaid was to endanger his Wiſdome for Fools.* Now though each of theſe mens fancies had a rational Foundation upon their reſpective principles, one to gratifie and ſerve the World, the other to deſpiſe and reject its Vanities, yet Natures poſitive Doctrine to all her Children is, *We are not born for our ſelves only.*

I ſhall ſay as to this, although in reaſoning betwixt two, notwithſtanding my diſcouragement; yet my reſolutions have been ſtrong, nothing have been thought too dear, ſo that ſomething may be done, if but as a Mite, it being my all. I therefore do humbly beg a kind reception, ſeeing the buſineſs is not a diſputable thing, *&c.*

FINIS.